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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/509,506	09/28/2004	Yoshio Okamoto	Furuya Case 1414	4041
23474	7590	07/11/2006	EXAMINER	
FLYNN THIEL BOUTELL & TANIS, P.C. 2026 RAMBLING ROAD KALAMAZOO, MI 49008-1631				THERKORN, ERNEST G
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
		1723		

DATE MAILED: 07/11/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)	
	10/509,506	OKAMOTO ET AL.	
	Examiner Ernest G. Therkorn	Art Unit 1723	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 30 May 2006.
 2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.
 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-8 is/are pending in the application.
 4a) Of the above claim(s) 4-8 is/are withdrawn from consideration.
 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
 6) Claim(s) 1-3 is/are rejected.
 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
 10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____

Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. Claim 1, line 10's "monomor" would appear to be a misspelled word.

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-3 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(B) as anticipated by or, in the alternative, under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as obvious over either Kimata (U.S. Patent No. 5,302,633) or Japan Patent No. 4-202141 in view of PTO Translation No. 06-3034. PTO Translation No. 06-3034 will serve as a translation for Japan Patent No. 4-202141. The claims are considered to read on either Kimata (U.S. Patent No. 5,302,633) or Japan Patent No. 4-202141 in view of PTO Translation No. 06-3034. However, if a difference exists between the claims and either Kimata (U.S. Patent No. 5,302,633) or Japan Patent No. 4-202141 in view of PTO Translation No. 06-3034, it would reside in optimizing the elements of either Kimata (U.S. Patent No. 5,302,633) or Japan Patent No. 4-202141 in view of PTO Translation No. 06-3034. It would have been obvious to

optimize the elements of either Kimata (U.S. Patent No. 5,302,633) or Japan Patent No. 4-202141 in view of PTO Translation No. 06-3034 to enhance separation.

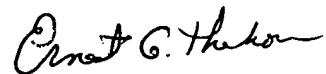
Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over either Kimata (U.S. Patent No. 5,302,633) or Japan Patent No. 4-202141 in view of PTO Translation No. 06-3034 in view of Murakami (E.P. No. 656,333). At best, the claim differs from either Kimata (U.S. Patent No. 5,302,633) or Japan Patent No. 4-202141 in view of PTO Translation No. 06-3034 in reciting the polysaccharide derivative has a polymerizable group at position 6. Murakami (E.P. No. 656,333) (page 3, lines 22-24) discloses the 6-position is a desirable location to link polysaccharides. It would have been obvious to have a polysaccharide derivative with a polymerizable group at position 6 in either Kimata (U.S. Patent No. 5,302,633) or Japan Patent No. 4-202141 in view of PTO Translation No. 06-3034 in view of Murakami (E.P. No. 656,333) because Murakami (E.P. No. 656,333) (page 3, lines 22-24) discloses the 6-position is a desirable location to link polysaccharides.

The remarks urge that examining the additional two inventions would not be a serious burden on the examiner. However, the additional searching and different issues of patentability would be an enormous burden on the examiner. As such, the restriction requirement and the election of species have been reconsidered, deemed proper, and made final for the reasons of record.

Any inquiry concerning this communication should be directed to E. Therkorn at telephone number (571) 272-1149. The official fax number is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 1723

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



**Ernest G. Therkorn
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1723**

EGT
July 3, 2006